Learn About Careers in Product Design

Product Design Career Overview
https://www.bls.gov/ooh/arts-and-design/industrial-designers.htm
https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers/career-path/product-design

What could I do with a degree in Product Design?
https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/product-design

Job Posting Sites for Product Design

Adrem Design Recruitment
https://adremgroup.com/
Product design jobs mainly located in or around London.

Core 77/Coroflot
http://www.core77.com
Design salary surveys, job postings, career information, a portfolio creation tool and much more!

Career Builder
https://www.careerbuilder.com/
Like many other sites, you can search for a job based on salary, location and keywords. Mostly full time jobs, not great for internships specifically. Can find positions listed under “product design” and “industrial design” (but search both because they aren’t always listed under both).

Creative Hotlist
http://www.creativehotlist.com/
Find design jobs by location, category or experience. Also build an online portfolio and post a resume.

Design Observer
http://designobserver.com/jobs/#
Presented by AIGA, Design Observer is a design news platform and a job board. Companies have to pay to post jobs so the listings are legitimate and often come from some very big companies. You can search based on keyword, location and job type. Actually a fair amount of internships.

GoldPASS
http://goldpass.umn.edu
University of Minnesota job posting system. In addition to finding current job and internship openings, use GoldPASS to search info and contacts for students' previously completed internships related to this major (to get ideas and contact information; this is not a list of openings)
Indeed
https://www.indeed.com
Search millions of jobs from thousands of job boards, newspapers, classifieds and company websites.

Internships
http://www.internships.com/
This website provides services and resources for students, employers and educators. Students can search for internships and jobs based on location and type of industry/major.

Krop: Creative & Tech Jobs
http://www.krop.com/
A wide selection of creative jobs and internships. Typically have some tech aspect to them.

LinkedIn
https://www.linkedin.com/
Manage your professional identity. Build and engage with your professional network. Access knowledge, insights and opportunities. This is a good place to make connections, find job postings, and allow employers to find you.

Upwork
https://www.upwork.com
A global freelancing platform where businesses and independent professional connect and collaborate remotely. Upload a portfolio and find short or long-term work. Great for portfolio building.

Portfolio Display Websites
Getting hired for a design job is based heavily on your portfolio. It’s important that when you’re applying for a job or trying to get hired for an independent project you have somewhere for employers to see your work. Below are listed several sites where you should make and maintain a professional account. Remember to include keywords and list your skills (including the names of programs you can use i.e. CAD, Alias, Adobe, etc.) in your profile to make it easier for employers to find you.

Behance
https://www.behance.net/
Owned by Adobe, Behance is a network of sites and services specializing in self-promotion, including consulting and online portfolio site. It is the leading online platform to showcase and discover creative work.

Coroflot
http://www.coroflot.com/
Coroflot helps creative professionals gain exposure and make connections to jobs and opportunities with design-driven companies worldwide. You have to be approved, but after that point you can upload your work and profile to the site.

Dribbble
https://dribbble.com/
Dribbble is an online community for showcasing user-made artwork. It functions as a self-promotion and networking platform for graphic design, product design, illustration, photography, etc. A community of designers sharing their work, process, and current projects. Get inspired and build your network, share your work and grow. You upload your profile and work as a “Prospect” and then a designer on the site has to review and approve your portfolio before you can become active in the community.
LinkedIn
https://www.linkedin.com/
LinkedIn is a great tool for making business connections and finding mentors, but it is also a great way to get your work out there. Employers can search the site for specific skills or work experience and find your page. Include a link to a separate account where you can display your work more fully.

Professional Associations Related to Product Design

Many professional associations have listservs or web sites where jobs and internships are posted. Sometimes, membership is required for access, so consider becoming a student member. Other benefits of membership include access to other members (for informational interviews), evidence of your commitment to the industry, and information about current trends as well as upcoming conferences and local meetings.

AIGA Minnesota
http://aigaminnesota.org/
Founded in 1977 as MGDA, AIGA Minnesota is the first place to turn for inspiration, professional development, and excellence in design in Minnesota. Our mission is to advance design as a professional craft, strategic tool, and vital cultural force. Our members include designers, strategists, students, educators, writers, photographers, illustrators, printers, prepress, and paper manufacturing/distribution. We offer education and events that promote excellence in design and opportunities for students and professionals to network.

Industrial Designers Society of America
www.idsa.org
IDSA is a non-profit membership association dedicated to advocacy, education, community and information in industrial design. They provide information about industry events, programs, news, videos and surveys.

Product Development and Management Association
http://www.pdma.org/
Our community of innovators creates the wellspring for new knowledge for how to create new marketplace value. The PDMA community is woven from a fabric of international practicing professionals, academic researchers, professors and students and service providers that support corporations with their innovation and product development expertise.

World Design Organization
http://wdo.org/about/
The World Design Organization (WDO), formerly known as the International Council of Societies of Industrial Design, is an international non-governmental organization that promotes the profession of industrial design and its ability to generate better products, systems, services, and experiences; better business and industry; and ultimately a better environment and society.

Women in Design (IDSA)
http://www.idsa.org/communities/sections/women-design
IDSA’s Women in Design special interest section supports women towards achieving their full professional potential and promotes women as future leaders. Members share perspectives on career development, build their professional skills, and expand their networks by planning and participating in sponsored lectures, workshops, panel discussions, and professional lunches/dinners.
Additional Resources for Product Design Students

Behance Gallery
https://www.behance.net/galleries/6/Product-Design
A fascinating digital gallery of product design projects from around the world. Includes high resolution renderings and photos. A good resource for inspiration and finding designers that are leading the industry.

Bicycle Design
http://bicycledesign.net/
If you’re really into designing bicycles – take a look. If you’re not – take a look anyway.

Drocarmo
http://drocarmo.com/resources/
A curated library of resources on product design including speeches, books, essays, articles, blog posts and website links.

Design Milk
http://design-milk.com/
Slightly more architecturally focused, Design Milk has a ton of great inspiration ranging from recent luxury hotels to noteworthy artists on Society 6. They also have a design podcast where they interview top designers and a job board to find design positions in your area.

DESIGN 1ST
https://www.design1st.com/resource-center/
Features helpful product design and development links, tips, resource guides and client news. Also features a selection of case studies and engineering guides.

Dieline
http://www.thedieline.com/
A great site if you’re interested in branding and packaging design.

Fast Co Design
https://www.fastcodesign.com/
Educate yourself on the marketing and branding that is behind product design through this blog. There’s also segments about interesting products, fails and contests.

Industrial Design Sandbox
http://idsandbox.blogspot.com/
A blog that covers Industrial Design conferences and awards. Find projects, designers, and get connected to the goings on in the industry.

How University
http://www.howdesign.com/
Design, marketing and career resources. There are online courses in various disciplines available but you do have to pay. There are also job postings, competitions and a design news feed. Great if you’re aiming to be a design entrepreneur.

Inhabitat
https://inhabitat.com/
Keep up on product design innovations in regard to sustainability and the environment. Some interesting news about innovations in space exploration too.
Lynda.com
https://www.lib.umn.edu/indexes/moreinfo?id=18528
As a student at the U of M you receive access to this site. It’s an online education company that has thousands of video courses in software, creative and business skills. Great for developing technical skills in the Adobe Suit, CAD, Corel, SketchBook Pro, AutoCAD and Alias (Pro tip: most of these are programs that the university has downloaded in the computer labs – take advantage of it!)

NOTCOT.
http://www.notcot.org/
A combination of crowdsourced inspiration board (think Pinterest) and blog, NOTCOT, keeps an eye on recent goings on, seasonal trends, and noteworthy items on the market. Articles range from silly to in-depth analysis to just kind of strange.

Pinterest
http://www.pinterst.com/
A digital “catalog of ideas” that you can save and sort. Great for creating mood boards for a project or for finding inspiration. Also has sketching and modeling tutorials.

Product Design Hub
http://productdesignhub.com/
Built to be a community for designers, this site has articles, forums, news, events, and a directory of product design companies and job opportunities.

Udemy
https://www.udemy.com/
Udemy.com is an online learning platform. It is aimed at professional adults and provides a platform for experts of any kind to create courses which can be offered to the public, either at no charge or for a tuition fee. Most courses cost around $10 which makes it a much more economical choice than some other learning sites. You do not receive academic credit for the courses, they just help you to develop professional and technical skills that you need in product design.

Yanko Design
http://www.yankodesign.com
We’re an online magazine dedicated to covering the best in international product design. We started as a little blog back in 2002 covering student work and over time, have grown into an international publishing company with millions of readers. We have a passion for the new, innovative, unique and undiscovered. With our eyes firmly focused on the future.

2 Modern
http://blog.2modern.com/
A hub for modern art enthusiasts as well as the avid product designer. A mix of articles relating to museums, color, packaging, art projects, architecture, design classics and innovation.
For more information on the student organizations below, and others, visit https://gopherlink.umn.edu/organizations/

**College of Design Student & Alumni Board**
http://www.design.umn.edu/current_students/leo/StudentandAlumniBoard.htm
The College of Design Student and Alumni Board provides leadership for the College of Design Alumni Society and serves as the official College of Design Student Board for graduate and undergraduate students. Student and alumni board members work together with alumni, faculty, and the design community to develop programs and services that enhance the student experience and support the transition from college to career.

**CoLab**
https://gopherlink.umn.edu/organization/3297
CoLab is a student-led incubator dedicating to taking businesses and ideas to the next level. Our mission is to spark and elevate new ideas to their greatest potential. This is done in two ways: projects and programming. On the projects end, CoLab has a dedicated team of Fellows with a broad range of expertise including graphic design, strategy consulting, and web design. These services are provide to students to help them start and grow businesses and ideas. CoLab also hosts a variety of events and programs to help foster innovative and design thinking on campus. This includes our Innovation Contests, which engage students to find solutions to university wide problems (like crime, operational efficiency, and the look and feel of the university).

**Design U**
https://gopherlink.umn.edu/organization/3528
Design U is an undergraduate student group founded with the intent of providing students with the opportunity to engage in fast-paced, interdisciplinary, hands-on design work. Unlike other existing design groups, its operation and culture is modeled after a real product design firm. Our members are to be the University's brightest future engineers, designers, and business students coming together to meet the demand of local businesses and nonprofits for quality creative work. In multi-faceted teams, the members of Design U enrich each other's education through collaborative work and engage industry on its own turf. At its core, Design U is to serve as an accelerator for design thinking and application in the U of M community.

**Digital Art Studio**
https://gopherlink.umn.edu/organization/3160
The Digital Art club is dedicated to learning about the new and innovative opportunities that lie in the world of digital art. From concept art, comics, image manipulation, to graphic design the Digital Art club aims to teach and provide its members with the resources, inspiration, and community that will drive its members to create art using digital tools such as Photoshop. Our goal is to educate and inspire members to become skilled in the use of these tools to be able to create their own work and share with a community that is willing to provide help and feedback.

**Product Design Minnesota**
https://gopherlink.umn.edu/organization/ProductDesignMinnesota
Product Design Minnesota consists of undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in studying product design and learning about idea generation processes associated with product design in a fun way. Our goal is to connect students to resources that can help them develop academically and professionally. Additionally, we are the Industrial Designs Society of America student chapter for Minnesota.